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MELTON MOWBRAY

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

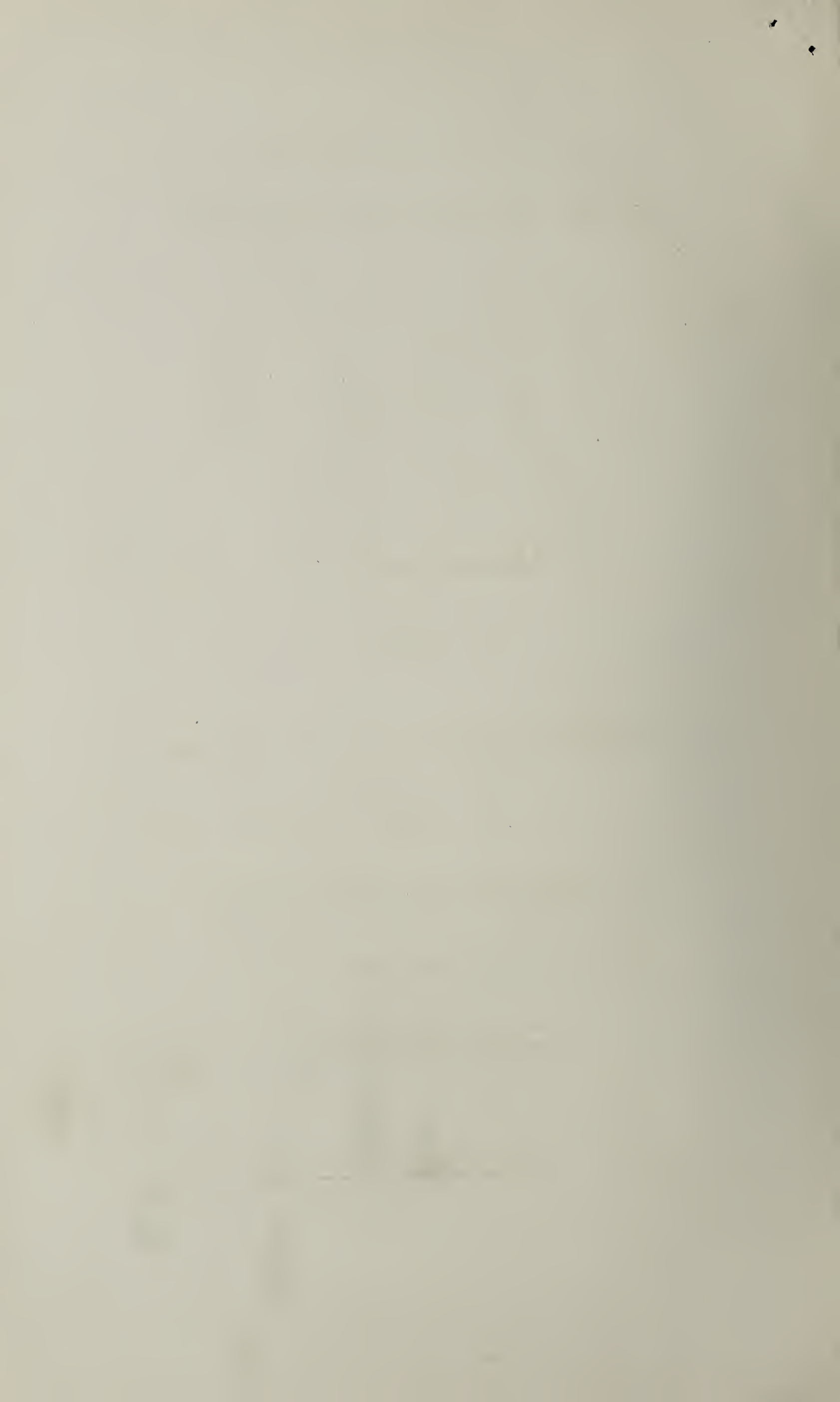
SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER, 1951

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MELTON MOWBRAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

A N D

S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T O R

1951

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, we deal briefly in this Report with matters within our responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine :-

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,658
Registrar General's estimated Mid-Year Home Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,940
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,520
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£81,649
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£306

VITAL STATISTICS

				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Live Births:	Legitimate	...	...	118	118	236
	Illegitimate	..	...	8	7	15
				<u>126</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>251</u>
Still Births:	Legitimate	...	...	3	2	5
	Illegitimate	.	...	--	1	1
				<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population				...	<u>1950</u> 19.1	<u>1951</u> 17.8
Birth Rate for England and Wales				...	13.8	15.5
				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Number of Deaths				...	...	...
				75	67	142
Death Rate per 1,000 population				...	<u>1950</u> 12.5	<u>1951</u> 10.0
Death Rate for England and Wales				...	11.6	12.5

Vital Statistics (continued):

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-			
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>
		<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births-	30.5	19.9	
Infant Mortality for England & Wales ...	29.8	29.6	

The statistics can be regarded as satisfactory. The Death Rate is low and the low Infant Mortality Rate is an indication of the good work carried out by the Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	-
Syphilitic Disease	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	-	4
Malignant Neoplasm of Lungs	5	-
Malignant Neoplasm of all other sites	4	4
Leukaemia	1	1
Diabetes	1	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	13
Coronary Disease	13	5
Heart Diseases	16	12
Other Circulatory Disease	6	7
Influenza	2	4
Pneumonia	3	1
Bronchitis	-	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	-
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	-
Gastritis, Enteritis or Diarrhoea	1	-
Nephritis or Nephrosis	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate... ..	1	-
Congenital Malformations	2	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	4	11
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1
All other Accidents	1	-
Suicide	2	-
Homicide or Operations of War	1	-
	<u>75</u>	<u>67</u>

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

John Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Camb.)

Medical Officer of Health for the Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Districts in which this District is included.

H. Buxton, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Meat & Foods Inspector.

S.J. Mayo, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following examinations were carried out during the year at the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester :-

Faeces	...	...	...	...	18
Urine	...	...	...	...	12
Blood	...	...	...	...	11
Sputum	...	...	...	...	5
Throat Swab	...	...	...	...	3
Pus Swab	...	...	...	...	1
Ice Cream	..	...	...	...	12
Tinned Cherries	.	...	...	...	2
Water	...	...	...	...	1
Other Specimens	..	...	...	...	2

The good co-operation with the Public Health Laboratory Service has continued during the year and the assistance given has been of great value.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

(1) Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1951.

<u>Diseases</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases Admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Scarlet Fever	15	15	-
Pneumonia	31	1	4
Dysentery	5	4	-
Erysipelas	5	-	-
Whooping Cough	15	1	-
Measles	133	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
Polio-myelitis	2	2	-
Meningococcal Infections	3	3	-
	<u>210</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>4</u>

Age Groups

Diseases	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 9	10 14	15 24	25 34	35 44	45 64	65 & over
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1	4	2	6	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	1	5	3	8	8
Dysentery	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	2
Whooping Cough	3	1	3	3	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	7	8	24	23	27	43	1	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Polio-myelitis	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	12	13	29	31	30	55	8	3	5	3	11	10

There was no serious outbreak during the year.

Scarlet Fever. - The small number of scarlet fever cases were of the usual mild type.

Polio-myelitis - The two notified cases of this disease were twins, aged one year, who were living with foster parents.

Diphtheria - Once again it is pleasing to report that no case of this disease was notified during the year. The last case of diphtheria amongst children occurred in 1945.

(2) Tuberculosis.

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1 - 4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	9	11	1	2	1	-	-	-

There was only one death from this disease during the year. Of the 23 cases added to the Register by notification or transfer, 7 were persons living at the Polish Hostel.

Number of Cases on Register at 31st December 1951.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Pulmonary	38	29
Non-pulmonary : ...	9	14

(3) Diphtheria Immunisation

The responsibility of the scheme for the immunisation of children against diphtheria was transferred to the Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act on July 5th, 1948, and details supplied show that during the year 1951, 168 children under five years of age were immunised against diphtheria and 99 children aged four years to fourteen years were given a "booster dose."

Number of Children immunised against Diphtheria since the Scheme started in 1941 :-

	<u>No. immunised</u>
1941	1,946
1942	565
1943	398
1944	226
1945	224
1946	205
1947	187
1948	248
1949	179
1950	150
1951	168
	<u>4,496</u>

Cases of Diphtheria notified since 1940 :-

		<u>Under</u> <u>5 years</u>	<u>5 to 15</u> <u>years</u>	<u>Over</u> <u>15 years.</u>
1940	...	6	7	6
1941	...	10	38	12
1942	...	3	4	1
1943	...	Nil	Nil	2
1944	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1945	...	Nil	3	Nil
1946	...	Nil	Nil	1
1947	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1948	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1949	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1950	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
1951	...	Nil	Nil	Nil

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(1) WATER SUPPLY

Number of Samples taken for Analysis:-

(a) from piped supply	...	...	...	4
(b) from wells	...	...	...	Nil

Two samples of water for bacteriological examination and two samples for chemical analysis from the piped supply were all satisfactory. The reports obtained show that the water supply was satisfactory as regards quality, and no serious shortage of supply was experienced, but it is hoped that the negotiations for an additional supply will soon reach a successful conclusion in order to meet the rapidly increasing demands of the Town.

During the year a piped supply from the water mains was substituted for a supply from a well where previous samples had shown that the well water was unsatisfactory.

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No. of Cesspools in District at the
end of 1951 6

No new cesspools were constructed during the year.

(3) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total number in District at end of 1951:-

(a) Pail Closets	...	9
(b) Water Closets	...	3,880

(4) PUBLIC CLEANSING

House refuse is collected by direct labour for disposal at the Destructor Works. Practically all houses are provided with movable dustbins.

House refuse and salvage material are collected as far as possible weekly throughout the area, and larger accumulations are collected as requested.

Good progress was made on the salvaging of all classes of materials, the value of the salvage dealt with during the year 1951 being £3,928.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given under this heading are for all purposes, including particulars given elsewhere in this Report:-

Total number of Complaints received	...	...	115
Total number of premises at which			
Defects or nuisances were dealt with	...	...	231

INSPECTIONS.

<u>Nature of Inspections</u>	<u>Number of Inspections</u>
Dwellinghouses (all purposes)	755
Animal keeping	23
Bakehouses	8
Dairies	20
Drainage Works	75
Food Premises	210
Refuse Collection & Disposal	25
Rodent Control	462
Schools	2
Shops	51
Slaughterhouses & Meat Inspection	540
Smoke Observations	5
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	11
Verminous Premises	41
Water Supplies	8
Factories	45
Other Inspections	53
	<u>2,334.</u>

NOTICES

<u>Preliminary:</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Other</u>
Outstanding on 1st January	11	6
Issued during the Year	32	56
Complied with during the Year	29	55
Statutory action necessary	Nil	1
Outstanding at 31st December	14	7
<u>Statutory</u>	Nil	1

Summary Action :-

Proceedings were taken against a firm for non-compliance with a notice to abate a nuisance arising from effluvia or fumes given out in the process of manufacture of glass marbles.

Production of these marbles ceased before the Court hearing and as the nuisance did not then exist, no Nuisance Order was made. The firm concerned did not recommence production and the premises were later taken over by a firm of engineers.

SHOPS

Action taken under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950 :-

Seven defects were found relating to sanitary conveniences and washing facilities and five were remedied.

REGULATED BUILDINGS

	<u>Number in District.</u>	<u>Number of Inspections.</u>
Common Lodging Houses	2	7

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

(a) Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health :-

	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Inspection</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	37	25	1	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	70	14	1	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	6	6	-	-
	<u>113</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>

(b) Cases in which defects were found :-

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred by H.M. Inspector</u>
Want of Cleanliness ...	4	4	1
Sanitary Conveniences:-			
(1) Insufficient ...	1	1	-
(2) Unsuitable or Defective	5	5	3
(3) Not separate for Sexes	1	1	-
	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>

(c) Outwork :-

Number of Outworkers 30

There were no instances of outwork in unwholesome premises.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

- (a) Publicly owned : One Childrens' Swimming Pool owned by Town Estate.
- (b) Privately owned: One open air Swimming Pool.

As mentioned in the previous Annual Report, the method of chlorinating the water for use in the Children's Swimming Pool in the Play Close was not entirely satisfactory, but a suitable chlorination plant has now been installed which gives proper chlorination of the water by controlled dosage.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

After pre-bait testing, two maintenance treatments were carried out during the year to destroy Rats in those main sewers found to be infested, with very satisfactory results.

Minor rat infestations at the Destructor Works, Salvage Depot and Sewage Disposal Works have been dealt with, also minor rats or mice infestations which were reported or discovered at 4 business premises and 47 private premises.

H O U S I N G

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) (i) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 264 |
| (ii) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... | 496 |
| (b) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 1 |
| (c) Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... | 46 |

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notice.

- | | |
|--|----|
| (a) Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action | 32 |
| (b) Unfit houses demolished | 1 |

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

Proceedings under the Housing Acts and Public Health Acts	Nil
--	-----

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV - Overcrowding.

Complete details of all overcrowding in the District cannot be given, but from the information supplied by over 600 applicants for Council houses, there are many cases of overcrowding, and the position is still difficult.

During the year, ten families have been transferred to Council Houses. Consideration has also been given to applications from Council House tenants who require a larger house and other cases where a smaller type of house would meet their need, and in order to make the fullest use of available accommodation, fourteen Council House exchanges have been effected.

The total number of persons rehoused, excluding Council House exchanges is 34, and the number of persons rehoused in Council House exchanges is 56, a total of 90.

In addition to conditions of overcrowding, there are a number of houses in the Town where the structural and general conditions are so unsatisfactory that it will be necessary to consider the making of demolition orders and the rehousing of the tenants in such cases.

5. New Houses.

	<u>By Local</u> <u>Authority</u>	<u>By Private</u> <u>Enterprise</u>
Number of permanent houses completed during the year	Nil	13 (including 5 conversions)
Number of houses in course of erection at the end of the year	124	8
Total number of post war houses completed	260	81

6. Occupied Houses.

Total number of Occupied Houses in District	3,520
Number of Council Houses occupied	500

7. Housing Applications.

Detailed Summary of Housing Applications showing Position at 31st December, 1951.

Number of Applications	615
Number of Applications for Council House Exchange	25

(a) No. of Applications from Persons residing within Urban District:

(i) In lodgings	250
(ii) Householders	157
	<u>407</u>

(b) No. of Applications from Persons residing outside Urban District:

(i) In lodgings	116
(ii) Householders	92
	<u>208</u>
(iii) Working within Urban District	81
(iv) Working outside Urban District	127
	<u>208</u>

Dates of Submission of Applications.

	Within Urban District		Outside Urban District		Total	
	L	H	L	H	L	H
Prior to 31.12.1946	16	55	13	21	29	76
To 31.12.1947	14	11	11	12	25	23
To 31.12.1948	46	28	22	13	68	41
To 31.12.1949	59	24	30	15	89	39
To 31.12.1950	46	25	21	12	67	37
To 31.12.1951	69	14	19	19	88	33
Totals	250	157	116	92	366	249

Applicants within Urban District residing in Lodgings.

Size of Family	No. of Families
Two applicants	1
Applicant and one Child	4
Man and Wife	83
Man and Wife (Expectant Mother)	6
Man, Wife and one Child	89
Man, Wife (Expectant Mother) and one Child	10
Man, Wife and two Children	39
Man, Wife (Expectant Mother) and two Children	2
Applicant and three Children	1
Man, Wife and three Children	12
Man, Wife (Expectant Mother) and three Children ..	1
Man, Wife and four Children	1
Man, Wife and five Children	1
Total	250

Applications from Householders within Urban District.

Size of Family	Number of Bedrooms in House							Total
	NH	1	2	3	4	5	6	
One Applicant	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Applicant with one Child	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Man and Wife	3	1	10	5	-	-	1	20
Man, Wife and one Child	5	5	17	9	2	-	-	38
Man, Wife (Expectant Mother) and one Child	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Applicant and two Children	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
Man, Wife and two Children	7	1	20	5	3	-	-	36
Man, Wife (Expectant Mother) & two Children	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Applicant and three Children	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
Man, Wife and three Children	6	-	10	4	2	1	-	23
Man, Wife (Expectant Mother) & Three Children	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Applicant and four Children	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	3
Man, Wife and four Children	4	-	9	3	-	-	-	16
Applicant and five Children	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Man, Wife and Five Children	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	5
Man, Wife and eight Children	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Totals	32	7	71	36	7	3	1	157

NH - Nissen Hut.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. Milk Supply.

(a) Dairies (other than dairy farms) and Distributors.

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Contraventions		
			Found	Remedied	Outstanding on 31st. Dec.
Dairies	7	15	3	3	Nil
Distributors only	2	5	1	1	Nil

(b) Biological Milk Samples.

One sample of milk taken for biological test proved satisfactory.

This is the only case where non-designated milk produced in

the District is not heat treated before retail sale.

Only a comparatively small quantity of the milk now sold in this Urban District is raw milk which has either not been heat treated or designated "Tuberculin Tested".

(c) Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Licences issued:-

Dealers' Licences: Pasteurised Milk ... 1
Sterilised Milk ... 1
Supplementary Licences ... Nil

(d) Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Licences issued:-

Dealers' Licences ... Nil
Supplementary Licences ... 1

2. Ice Cream.

Number of Premises registered:-

(a) Manufacture and Retail ... 1
(b) Manufacture only ... 1
(c) Retail only ... 43

Number of Inspections of Premises ... 33

Number of Samples taken .. 12 Results: Grade 1 - 9
Grade 2 - 3
Grade 3 - Nil
Grade 4 - Nil

At thirty nine of the forty three retail premises, only pre-packed ice cream is sold.

3. Meat and Other Foods.

Number of Regional Slaughterhouses in Area ... 1
Number of Animals slaughtered ... 9,538
Number of Inspections of Meat at times of slaughter 526
Number of Knacker's Yards in Area ... 1
Number of Visits to Knacker's Yards ... 4

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number Killed & Inspected	1736	748	734	5372	948	9538
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>						Weight in lb.
Whole Carcasses condemned	8	8	45	82	20	15839
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	608	303	14	119	47	15339
Percentage of number in- spected affected with disease other than Tub- erculosis.	30.9%	41.6%	8.0%	3.7%	7.1%	31,178
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	10	36	3	-	4	29599
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	234	204	-	-	45	13726
Percentage of number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis	14.1%	32.1%	0.4%	-	5.2%	17,325

Total Weight in lb. - 74,503

33 tons, 5 cwts., 23 lb., of Meat was condemned during the year, compared with 41 tons, 16 cwts., 1 lb. last year.

	<u>Number of Inspections</u>
Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.	22
Places where Food (other than Meat) is kept or prepared for sale	165

The following Foods were condemned and voluntarily surrendered:-

283 lb. of Fish; 364 lb. of Other Foods; and 3,187 tins, jars and bottles of various Foods.

The tins condemned included 68 large tins of imported cooked ham, nett weight $960\frac{3}{4}$ lb., and 1,472 tins of one brand of imported cherries.

The tins of cherries appeared quite sound externally but when opened the contents had a strong "metallic" taste and smell due, in the Analyst's opinion, "to hydro-carbons formed by the action of the acid fruit juice on the tin container and rendered the food not of a suitable quality for human consumption." As a result of information passed to, and action taken by, the Food Inspector for the district where the importer's warehouse was situated, the whole of the consignment was withdrawn from sale.

4. Food Poisoning.

No cases of Food Poisoning have been notified during the year 1951.

We have the honour to be,

Your obedient servants,

J. YOUNG

Medical Officer of Health.

H. BUXTON

Chief Sanitary Inspector.
